

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A driving method of a liquid crystal element for allowing said liquid crystal element to display a level of grayscale, ~~said liquid~~ the liquid crystal element displaying the level of grayscale, throughout a frame ~~period~~ period, by switching to an ON-state ~~said liquid~~ the liquid crystal element during a period corresponding to grayscale data that defines ~~said level~~ the level of grayscale, ~~said method~~ the driving method comprising:

dividing the frame period into a plurality of sub-fields, the plurality of sub-fields having a first group of sub-fields continuous with respect to one another and a second group of sub-fields continuous with respect to one another, the second group of sub-fields being subsequent to the first group of sub-fields,

each of the plurality of sub-fields of the first group of sub-fields having a same first sub-field ~~period~~, period and each of the plurality of sub-fields of the second group of sub-fields having a same second sub-field ~~period~~ period, the second sub-field period being ~~which is~~ substantially equal to a sum of a length of the first sub-field periods ~~of the first group of sub-fields~~ and a length of any one of the first sub-field periods;

selecting, according to the grayscale data, sub-fields that are adjacent to each other in a direction from a temporal ~~position~~ position, the temporal position being between the first group of sub-fields and the second group of ~~sub-fields~~ sub-fields, toward a sub-field of the first group of sub-fields or a sub-field of the second group of sub-fields at a position most remote from the temporal position; and

driving by switching to the ON-state the liquid crystal element during ~~period~~ of the sub-fields selected; a period that the sub-fields are selected; and

switching to the ON-state ~~ON~~ of a sub-field located between the first group of sub-fields and the second group of ~~sub-fields~~ sub-fields, regardless of the level of ~~grayscale~~ grayscale, to supply a threshold voltage relating to driving the liquid crystal element.

2-11. (Canceled)

12. (Previously Presented) The driving method of a liquid crystal element according to Claim 1,

said grayscale data being composed of N bits (N is an integer not less than 2) to define a level of grayscale having 2 to the N^{th} power kinds;

high-order M bits in said N bits defining a level of grayscale said second group of sub-fields should display;

low-order (N – M) bits in said N bits defining a level of grayscale said first group of sub-fields should display; and

said M is an optimal solution of M given on an assumption that said frame period includes $(2^{N-M} - 1)$ first sub-field periods.

13. (Previously Presented) The driving method of a liquid crystal element according to Claim 1,

said grayscale data being composed of N bits (N is an integer not less than 2) to define a level of grayscale having 2 to the N^{th} power kinds;

a length of each of said second sub-field periods being equal to a length of a period to display a level of grayscale defined by a least significant bit in high-order M bits in said N bits;

the number of said second group of sub-fields being equal to a maximum value specified by said M bits;

a length of each of said first sub-field periods being equal to a length of a period to display a level of grayscale defined by a least significant bit in low-order (N – M) bits in said N bits; and

the number of said first group of sub-fields being equal to a maximum value specified by said (N – M) bits.

14-29. (Canceled)

30. (Currently Amended) A driving device of a liquid crystal element for allowing said liquid crystal element to display a level of ~~grayscale~~ said grayscale, the liquid crystal element displays the level of grayscale, throughout a frame ~~period~~ period, by switching to an ON-state ~~said the~~ liquid crystal element during a period corresponding to grayscale data that defines said level of grayscale, ~~said the driving~~ device comprising:

a dividing circuit that divides the frame period into a plurality of sub-fields, the plurality of sub-fields having a first group of sub-fields continuous with respect to one another and a second group of sub-fields continuous with respect to one another, the second group of sub-fields being subsequent to the first group of sub-fields,

each of the plurality of sub-fields of the first group of sub-fields having a same first sub-field ~~period~~, period and each of the plurality of sub-fields of the second group of sub-fields having a same second sub-field ~~period which is~~ period, the second sub-field period being substantially equal to a sum of a length of the first sub-field periods ~~of the first group of sub-fields~~ and a length of any one of the first sub-field periods;

a selecting circuit that selects, according to the grayscale data, sub-fields that are adjacent to each other in a direction from a temporal ~~position~~ position, the temporal position being between the first group of sub-fields and the second group of ~~sub-fields~~ sub-fields, toward a sub-field of the first group of sub-fields or a sub-field of the second group of sub-fields at a position most remote from the temporal position; and

a driving circuit that switches ~~to the~~ ON-state ~~said liquid the liquid~~ crystal element during ~~period of the sub-fields selected;~~ a period that the sub-fields are selected; and
a switching circuit that switches ~~ON of~~ to the ON-state a sub-field located between the first group of sub-fields and the second group of ~~sub-fields~~ sub-fields, regardless of the level of ~~grayscale.~~ grayscale, to supply a threshold voltage relating to driving the liquid crystal element.

31-32. (Canceled)

33. (Previously Presented) Electronic equipment, comprising:

a display device, including a plurality of liquid crystal elements aligned in a matrix, that displays an image related to said electronic equipment; and

said driving device of a liquid crystal element according to Claim 30.

34-35. (Canceled)